# Exhibit A

WEBB CO DISTRICT CLERK Fax:956-523-5121 \_ \_ Oct 6 2016 09:26am P001/002

1

PAGE

CaseStatus

Webb County Courts - Live Document 1-2<sup>CA</sup>FIEd In TXSIS on 10/06/16 Page 2 of 29

DATE 10/06/16 MV0260 TIME 9:22:25 DCSL

CASE NUMBER . . . . : 2016CVF002350 D3 CASE TYPE : F08 INSURANCE

PLAINTIFF . . . . : SALA PRIMARY LLC, , , S.S.# . . . . . : 000-00-0000 D.O.B. . . . . :

ADDRESS . . . . . :

DRIVER LICENSE # . :

PLAINTIFFS ATTORNEY : LAWRENCE, LARRY, W, JR PHONE NUMBER: 000-000-0000

ADDRESS . . . . . : 3112 WINDSOR RD STE A234

AUSTIN TX 78703

VS.

DEFENDANT NAME . . : UNITED STATES LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANY,

S.S.# . . . . . : 000-00-0000 D.O.B. . . . . :

ADDRESS . . . . . : 4500 YOAKUM BLVD

HOUSTON TX 77006

DRIVERS LICENSE # . :

CASE STATUS . . . : Active STATUS DATE . . . : 9/07/2016

CASE DISPOSITION . : DISPOSITION DATE :

DEFENDANT NAME . . : KNIES, GLENN,,

S.S.# . . . . . : 000-00-0000 D.O.B. . . . . :

ADDRESS . . . . . : 4500 KOAKUM BLVD

TX 77006 HOUSTON

DRIVERS LICENSE # . :

CASE STATUS . . . : Active STATUS DATE . . . : 9/07/2016 CASE DISPOSITION . : DISPOSITION DATE :

ENTRY/FILING DATE . : 9/07/2016

JUDGE . . . . . . . B.Palomo

HEARING TYPE . . . :

ADMIN. TERM. CODE . : IND. TERM. CODE . :

COMPLAINT . . . . : \*IMG\*CONTRACT

COMPLAINT DATE . . : 9/07/2016 COMPLAINT AMOUNT : INTEREST DATE . . : INTEREST RATE . . :

REIMBURSE COSTS . . : NO COUNTER CLAIM ORI# : COUNTER CLAIM CASE: TRUSTEESHIP ORI# . : GARNISHMENT ORI# . : TRUSTEESHIP CASE : GARNISHMENT CASE :

ACTIVITY DATE ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION ACTIVITY TYPE

9/07/2016 Jury Fee

Jury Fee

JURY DEMAND PAID BY ATTORNEY LARRY LAWRENCE. (LT)

Case Status

Case Status entered as ACTV. Case Status ACTV: Active

For UNITED STATES LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANY

Case 5:16-cv-00295 Document 1-2CASTE PACK 50 on 10/06/16 Page 3 of 29

Webb County Courts - Live DATE 10/06/16

PAGE MV0260 DCSL

9:22:25 TIME

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CASE NUMBER . . . : 2016CVF002350 D3 CASE TYPE : F08 INSURANCE

Complaint Complaint

\*IMG\*CONTRACT

9/12/2016 Court Case Assignment Case Assqn

Court date/time: 12/05/2016 13:30 Hearing Type: 17 Clndr Call

Assignment of court date/time.

Status entered as Open

Notes Notes

\*IMG\*CALENDAR CALL FAXED TO ATTORNEY LARRY LAWRENCE AND ATTACHED

COPY TO CITATIONS. (LT)

9/14/2016 Issuance Issuance

\*IMG\*(4) CITATIONS ISSUED TO UNITED STATES LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANY AND GLENN KNIES BY CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT. (LT)

9/27/2016 Returns

\*IMG\* CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN EXECUTED AS TO UNITED STATED LIABILITY

INSURANCE COMPANY'S (DOS ?). SL

Returns

\*IMG\* CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN EXECUTED AS TO GLEN KINES. (DOS ?). SL

10/04/2016 Filing Papers File Paprs

\*IMG\* LETTER FROM BINGHAM, MANN, HOUSE REQUESTING COPIES. (SL)

WEBB CO DISTRICT CLERK Fax:956-523-5121

Oct 4 2016 04:13pm P002

# Case 5:16-cv-00295 Document 1-2 Filed in TXSD on 10/06/16 Page 4 of 29 Filed CIVIL CASE INFORMATION SHEET

Filed do

	Esther Degollado	
		District Clerk
Cause Number (for clerk use only): _	COURT (FOR CLERK USE ONLY):	Webb District
		Linda Torres

### STYLED SALA PRIMARY LLC V. UNITED STATES LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANY2418(CVF002350D3 **GLENN KNIES**

(e.g., John Smith v. All American Insurance Co: In re Mary Ann Jones: In the Matter of the Estate of George Jackson)

A civil case information sheet must be completed and submitted when an original petition or application is filed to initiate a new civil. family law, probate, or mental health case or when a post-judgment petition for modification or motion for enforcement is filed in a family law case. The information should be the best available at

the time of filing.								
1. Contact information for person completing case information sheet:		Names of parties in case:		Person or entity completing sheet is:				
Name: Michael A. Lawrence	ame: Email:		Plaintiff(s)/Petitioner(s):		Attorney for Plaintiff/Petitioner  Pro Se Plaintiff/Petitioner  Title IV-D Agency			
om		Sala Primary LLC		Other:				
Address:	Address:				A 4324 - 1 Park - 1 - Child Samuel Con-			
3112 Windsor Rd., Su	-				Addition	al Parties in Child Support Case:		
A234	956-994-0057		Defendant(s)/Respondent(s): Custoo		Custodial	Parent:		
City/State/Zip:	Fax:		United States Liability Non-Custodial Parent:					
Austin, Texas 78703	800-507-4152		Insurance Company and Presumed Father:					
Signature:	State Bar No:		Glenn Knies —					
	24055826							
			[Attach additional page as nec	essary to list all parties?		•		
2. Indicate case type, or identify	the most important issue in the c	ase (sele	ct only 1);	grast as as				
	Civil					ily Law		
			DARF VET		sai iliya	Post-judgment Actions		
Contract  Debt/Contract	Injury or Damage		Real Property	Marriage Relati Annulment	onship	(non-Title IV-D)		
Debt/Contract Consumer/DTPA	Assault/Battery Construction		ninent Domain/ ndemnation		ge Void	Modification—Custody		
Debt/Contract	Defamation	Par		Declare Marriage Void  Divorce		Modification—Other		
Fraud/Misrepresentation	Malpractice		iet Title	With Children		Title IV-D		
Other Debt/Contract:	Accounting		espass to Try Title	No Children		Enforcement/Modification		
77	Legal	Oti	ner Property:			Paternity		
Foreclosure Home Equity—Expedited	Medical Other Professional	_	<del>_</del>			Reciprocals (UIFSA)		
Other Foreclosure	Liability:					Support Order		
Franchise	Motor Vehicle Accident	R	elated to Criminal					
<b>⊠</b> Insurance	Premises	I Ev	Matters	Other Family Enforce Foreign		Parent-Child Relationship Adoption/Adoption with		
Landlord/Tenant	Product Liability	Expunction Judgment Nisi		Judgment		Termination		
Non-Competition Partnership	Asbestos/Silica Other Product Liability	Non-Disclosure		Habeas Corpus		Child Protection		
Other Contract:	List Product:		zure/Forfeiture	Name Change		Child Support		
			it of Habeas Corpus—	Protective Order		Custody or Visitation		
	i interpretation of Danage.		re-indictment		isabilities	Gestational Parenting		
						Grandparent Access Paternity/Parentage		
Employment	Öftiei	Civil				Termination of Parental		
Discrimination	Administrative Appeal	Lav	wyer Discipline			Rights		
Retaliation	Antitrust/Unfair	Per	petuate Testimony			Other Parent-Child:		
Termination	Competition		curities/Stock			<del></del>		
Workers' Compensation	Code Violations	Tol	rtious Interference					
Other Employment:	Foreign Judgment Intellectual Property	⊡_Otl	ier:					
Tax	Probate & Mental Health							
Tax Appraisal Tax Delinquency	Probate/Wills/Intestate Administration							
Other Tax	Independent Administration		Schardranship—Minor  Mental Health					
	Other Estate Proceedings			Other:				
3. Indicate proceedure or remedy if applicable (was called more alles to the								
3. markate procedure of remedy, at applicable likely selection extra transfer and the selection of the selec								
Appeal from Municipal or Justice Court Declaratory Judgment Projective Order								
Attachment Protective Order  Attachment Receiver								
Bill of Review License Sequestration								
Certiorari Mandamus Temporary Restraining Order/Injunction					aining Order/Injunction			
Class Action	Post-ju	dgment		Turne	ver	Allendar - and the second seco		
4. Indicate damages sought (do not select if le is a family law case):								

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Less than \$100,000, including damages of any kind, penalties, costs, expenses, pre-judgment interest, and attorney fees

Less than \$100,000 and non-monetary relief

Over \$100,000 but not more than \$200,000

Over \$200,000 but not more than \$1,000,000

Over \$1,000,000

Rev 2/13

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Esther Degoliado District Clerk Webb District Linda Torres 2016CVF002350D3

CAUSE NO	•	2016CVF002350			
SALA PRIMARY LLC	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT			
Plaintiff	§				
	§				
VS.	§	JUDICIAL DISTRICT			
	§				
UNITED STATES LIABILITY	§				
INSURANCE COMPANY AND	§				
GLENN KNIES	§				
Defendants	8	WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS			

#### PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

COMES NOW, SALA PRIMARY LLC, complaining of UNITED STATES

LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANY AND GLENN KNIES, and for cause of action would show:

#### I. DISCOVERY

1. This is a level III discovery case as defined by the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure.

#### II. PARTIES

- 2. Plaintiff is a resident of Webb County, Texas.
- 3. Defendant United States Liability Insurance Company is a Pennsylvania Corporation engaging in the business of insurance in the State of Texas. The defendant may be served with process by serving its registered agent: Lisa Mann, Bingham, Mann & House, 4500 Yoakum Blvd., Houston, Texas 77006.
- 4. Defendant Glenn Knies is an individual licensed to engage in the business of adjusting insurance claims in Texas. This defendant can be served with process by serving United States Liability Insurance Company's registered agent: Lisa Mann, Bingham, Mann & House, 4500 Yoakum Blvd., Houston, Texas 77006 or wherever found.

#### III. JURISDICTION & VENUE

5. The subject matter in controversy is within the jurisdictional limits of this court. The court has jurisdiction over Defendant United States Liability Insurance Company (hereinafter "United States Liability") because it is engaging in the business of insurance in the State of Texas and over Defendant Glenn Knies (hereinafter "Knies") because he is an adjuster for United States Liability who adjusts claim in Texas. Venue is proper in this county because the insured property is situated in Webb County, Texas. Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code § 15.032.

#### IV. FACTS

- 6. Plaintiff is the owner of the Texas Commercial Insurance Policy (hereinafter referred to as "the Policy"), which was issued by United States Liability.
- 7. Plaintiff owns the insured property, located at 200 W Lyon Street, Laredo, Texas 78040 (hereinafter referred to as "the Property").
  - 8. United States Liability sold the Policy insuring the property to Plaintiff.
- 9. On or about May 11, 2015, Plaintiff sustained extensive physical damage to the insured Property. During the late afternoon and evening hours of May 11, 2015, strong supercell thunderstorms moved through the Laredo, Texas area producing heavy rains, and damaging wind and hail.
- 10. Plaintiff submitted claims to the Defendants against the policy for damages to the Property as a result of the May 11, 2015 storm. Plaintiff requested that the Defendants cover the costs of these repairs pursuant to the policy they entered into with the Defendants.
- 11. The Plaintiff reported the damage to the covered Property to the Defendant United States Liability. The Defendant wrongfully denied Plaintiff's claim for full repairs to the Property, even though the Policy they have with the Defendant provided coverage for losses such

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as the losses suffered by the Plaintiff. Additionally, the Defendant under-scoped damages during its inspections, investigations, and payment and made representation that the policy the Plaintiff has with Defendant specifically excluded some repairs.

- 12. As of the date of this filing, the Defendant continue to delay in the payment for the damages to the property. As a result, Plaintiff has not been paid the full value of the damages suffered to its property.
- 13. Defendant United States Liability failed to perform its contractual duties to adequately compensate Plaintiff under the terms of the policy. In spite of a demand for proceeds to be paid out in an amount sufficient to cover the damaged property, Defendant United States Liability has categorically refused to pay the full proceeds available under the policy. Additionally, all conditions precedent to recovery upon the Policy have been carried out by the Plaintiff. Defendant United States Liability's conduct constitutes a breach of the insurance contract between Plaintiff and Defendant.
- 14. Defendant United States Liability has misrepresented to Plaintiff there was no damage to areas of the property that were damaged, and that all damage covered under the Policy has been accounted for, even though it has not been paid in full. Defendant United States Liability's conduct constitutes a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices. Tex. Ins. Code §541.060(a)(1).
- 15. Defendant United States Liability failed to make an attempt to settle Plaintiff's claim in a fair manner, although it was aware of its liability to Plaintiff under the Policy. Defendant United States Liability's conduct constitutes a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices. Tex. Ins. Code §541.060(a)(2)(A).
  - 16. Defendant United States Liability failed to adequately explain to Plaintiff the reasons

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for its offer of an inadequate settlement. Specifically, Defendant United States Liability failed to offer Plaintiff adequate compensation, and misrepresented its explanation for why full payment was not being made. Furthermore, Defendant United States Liability did not communicate that any future settlements or payments would be forthcoming to pay for the entire losses covered under the Policy, nor did it provide any explanation for the failure to adequately settle Plaintiff's claim. Defendant United States Liability's conduct is a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices. Tex. Ins. Code §541.060(a)(3).

17. Defendant United States Liability refused to fully compensate Plaintiff, under the terms of the Policy, even though Defendant United States Liability failed to conduct a reasonable investigation. Specifically, Defendant United States Liability performed an outcome-oriented investigation of Plaintiff's claim, which resulted in a biased, unfair, and inequitable evaluation of Plaintiff's losses on the Property. Defendant United States Liability's conduct constitutes a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices. Tex. Ins. Code §541.060(a)(7).

18. Defendant United States Liability failed to accept or deny Plaintiff's full and entire claim within the statutorily mandated time of receiving all necessary information. Defendant United States Liability's conduct constitutes a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Prompt Payment of Claims. Tex Ins. Code §542.056.

19. Defendant United States Liability failed to meet its obligations under the Texas Insurance Code regarding payment of claim without delay. Specifically, it has delayed full payment of Plaintiff's claim longer than allowed and, to date, Plaintiff has not received full payment for its claim. Defendant United States Liability's conduct constitutes a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Prompt Payment of Claims. Tex. Ins. Code §542.058.

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20. Since the date Plaintiff presented its claim to Defendant United States Liability, the liability of Defendant United States Liability to pay the full claim in accordance with the terms of the Policy was reasonably clear. However, Defendant United States Liability has refused to pay Plaintiff in full, despite there being no basis whatsoever on which a reasonable insurance company would have relied to deny the full payment. Defendant United States Liability's conduct constitutes a breach of the common law duty of good faith and fair dealing.

21. Defendant United States Liability knowingly or recklessly made false representations, as described above, as to material facts and/or knowingly concealed all or some material information from Plaintiff.

22. As a result of Defendant United States Liability's wrongful acts and omissions, Plaintiff was forced to retain the professional services of the attorney and law firm who are representing him with respect to these causes of action.

#### V. CAUSES OF ACTION

# Causes of Action against United States Liability and Glenn Knies' Noncompliance with Texas Insurance Code: Unfair Settlement Practices

23. Defendants, United States Liability and Knies', conduct constitute multiple violations of the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices. TEX. INS. CODE. §541.151.

24. Defendant, Knies, is liable for its unfair and deceptive acts, irrespective of the fact it was acting on behalf of United States Liability, because it is a "person" as defined by TEX. INS. CODE. §541.002(2). The term "person" is defined as "any individual, corporation, association, partnership, reciprocal or inter-insurance exchange, Lloyd's plan, fraternal benefit society, or other legal entity engaged in the business of insurance, including an agent, broker, adjuster or life and health insurance counselor." TEX. INS. CODE. §541.002(2) (emphasis added). (See also

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Liberty Mutual insurance Co. V Garrison Contractors, Inc., 966 S.W. 2d 482, 484 (Tex. 1998) (holding an insurance company employee to be a "person" for the purpose of bringing a cause of

action against them under the Texas Insurance Code and subjecting them to individual liability).

- 25. Defendants, United States Liability and Knies', unfair settlement practices, as described above, of misrepresenting to Plaintiff material facts relating to the coverage at issue, constitutes an unfair method of competition and an unfair and deceptive act or practice in the business of insurance. TEX. INS. CODE. §541.060(a)(1).
- 26. The unfair settlement practices of Defendants, United States Liability and Knies, as described above, of failing to promptly provide Plaintiff with a reasonable explanation of the basis in the Policy, in relation to the facts or applicable law, for the offer of a compromise settlement of Plaintiff's claim, constitute an unfair methods of competition and an unfair and deceptive acts or practices in the business of insurance. TEX. INS. CODE. §541.060(a)(3).
- 27. Defendants, United States Liability and Knies', unfair settlement practices, as described above, of refusing to pay Plaintiff's claim without conducting a reasonable investigation, constitutes an unfair method of competition and an unfair and deceptive act or practice in the business of insurance. TEX. INS. CODE. §541.0609(a)(7).

#### Fraud against all Defendant Parties

- 28. Defendants United States Liability and Knies are liable to Plaintiff for common law fraud.
- 29. Defendants made material misrepresentations to Plaintiff as to the extent of its damages, the need for repairs, the quality of their services, and the extent of the coverage provided by the Policy of those damages. Each and every one of the representations, as described above, concerned material facts relied upon by Plaintiff which Defendants, United

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States Liability and Knies, knew were false or made recklessly without any knowledge of their truth as a positive assertion.

30. The statements were made with the intention that they should be acted upon by Plaintiff, who in turn acted in reliance upon the statements proximately causing Plaintiff to suffer injury and damages as described herein below.

#### Conspiracy to Commit Fraud against all Defendant Parties

31. Defendants United States Liability and Knies are liable to Plaintiff for conspiracy to commit fraud. Defendants United States Liability and Knies were members of a combination of two or more persons whose object was to accomplish an unlawful purpose by unlawful means. In reaching a meeting of the minds regarding the course of action to be taken against Plaintiff, Defendants, United States Liability and Knies, committed an unlawful, overt act to further the object of the conspiracy. Plaintiff suffered injury as a proximate result.

## CAUSES OF ACTION AGAINST UNITED STATES LIABILITY ONLY

32. Defendant United States Liability is liable to Plaintiff for breach of contract, as well as intentional violations of the Texas Insurance Code and intentional breach of good faith and fair dealing.

#### **Breach of Contract**

- 33. Defendant United States Liability's conduct as described *supra* constitutes a breach of the insurance contract made between United States Liability and Plaintiff.
- 34. Defendant United States Liability's failure and refusal, as described above, to pay the adequate compensation as it is obligated to do under the terms of the Policy in question and under the laws of the State of Texas, constitutes a breach of United States Liability's insurance contract with Plaintiff which proximately caused Plaintiff the loss of the policy benefits.

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# Noncompliance with Texas Insurance Code: Unfair Settlement Practices

- 35. Defendant United States Liability's conduct constitutes multiple violations of the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices. TEX. INS. CODE. §541.060(A). All violations under this article are made actionable by TEX. INS. CODE. §541.151.
- 36. Defendant United States Liability's unfair settlement practice, as described above, of misrepresenting to Plaintiff material facts relating to the coverage at issue, constitutes an unfair method of competition and an unfair and deceptive act or practice in the business of insurance. TEX. INS. CODE. §541.060(a)(1).
- 37. Defendant United States Liability's unfair settlement practice, as described above, of failing to attempt in good faith to effectuate a prompt, fair, and equitable settlement of the claim, even though United States Liability's liability under the Policy was reasonably clear, constitutes an unfair method of competition and an unfair and deceptive act or practice in the business of insurance. TEX. INS. CODE. §541.060(a)(2)(A).
- 38. Defendant United States Liability's unfair settlement practice, as described above, of failing to promptly provide Plaintiff with a reasonable explanation of the basis in the Policy, in relation to facts or applicable law, for their offer of a compromise settlement of the claim, constitutes an unfair method of competition and an unfair and deceptive act or practice in the business of insurance. TEX. INS. CODE. §541.060(a)(3).
- 39. Defendant United States Liability's unfair settlement practice, as described above, of failing within a reasonable time to affirm or deny coverage of the claim to Plaintiff, or to submit a reservation of rights to Plaintiff, constitutes an unfair method of competition and an unfair and deceptive act or practice in the business of insurance. TEX. INS. CODE. §541.060(a)(4).

40. Defendant United States Liability's unfair settlement practice, as described above, of refusing to pay Plaintiff's claim without conducting a reasonable investigation, constitutes an unfair method of competition and unfair and deceptive act or practice in the business of insurance. TEX. INS. CODE. §541.060(a)(7).

#### Noncompliance with Texas Insurance Code: The Prompt Payment of Claims

- 41. Defendant United States Liability's conduct constitutes multiple violations of the Texas Insurance Code, Prompt Payment of Claims. All violations made under this article are made actionable by TEX. INS. CODE. §542.060.
- 42. Defendant United States Liability's failure to acknowledge receipt of Plaintiff's claim, commence investigation of the claim, request from Plaintiff all items, statements, and forms that they reasonable believed would be required within the applicable time constraints, and pay the full amount of the claim, as described above, constitutes a non-prompt payment of claim and a violation of the TEX. INS. CODE §542.056(a).

#### Breach of Duty of Good Faith and Fair Dealing

- 43. Defendant United States Liability's conduct constitutes a breach of the common law duty of good faith and fair dealing owed to an insured in insurance contracts.
- 44. Defendant United States Liability's failure, as described above, to adequately and reasonably investigate and evaluate Plaintiff's claim when United States Liability knew, or should have known, by the exercise of reasonable diligence that its liability was reasonably clear, constitutes a breach of the duty of good faith and fair dealing which proximately caused Plaintiff's damages as described herein below.

#### KNOWLEDGE

45. The acts of Defendants are in violation of the Insurance Code described above were done "knowingly," as that item is used in the Texas Insurance Code, and were producing causes of Plaintiff's damages described herein.

#### VI. DAMAGES

- 46. Plaintiff will show that all of the aforementioned acts, taken together or singularly, constitute the proximate or producing causes of the damages sustained by Plaintiff.
- 47. As previously mentioned, the damages caused by the storms described above rendered Plaintiff's property substantially damaged. These damages have not been properly addressed or repaired in the months since the storm, causing further damages to the Property and causing undue hardship and burden to Plaintiff. These damages are a direct result of Defendants', United States Liability and Knies's, mishandling of Plaintiff's claim in violation of the laws set forth above.
- 48. For breach of contract, Plaintiff is entitled to regain the benefit of its bargain, which is the amount of its claim, together with attorneys' fees.
- 49. For noncompliance with the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices, Plaintiff is entitled to actual damages, which include the loss of the benefits that should have been paid pursuant to the policy, mental anguish, court costs and attorney's fees.
- 50. For noncompliance with Texas Insurance Code, Prompt Payment of Claims, Plaintiff is entitled to the amount of its claim, as well as eighteen (18) percent interest per annum of the amount of such claim as damages, together with attorney's fees. TEX. INS. CODE. §542.060.
- 51. For breach of the Common Law duty of good faith and fair dealing, Plaintiff is entitled to compensatory damages, including all forms of loss resulting from the insurer's breach

of duty, such as additional costs, economic hardship, losses due to nonpayment of the amount the insurer owed, exemplary damages and damages for emotional distress.

- 52. For fraud, Plaintiff is entitled to recover actual damages and exemplary damages for knowing fraudulent and malicious representations, along with attorneys' fees, interest and court costs.
- 53. For the prosecution and collection of this claim, Plaintiff has been required to retain the services of the undersigned attorneys and is entitled to recover its reasonable and necessary attorneys' fees.
- 54. As a result of the knowing violations of the Texas Insurance Code, Plaintiff is entitled to recover treble damages pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Insurance Code.
- 55. In accordance with Rule 47, as amended, and with the information currently available, Plaintiff seeks monetary relief of over \$200,000.00 but not more than \$1,000,000.00.

#### VII. WRITTEN DISCOVERY

#### **Requests for Disclosure**

56. Under Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 194, Plaintiff requests that defendants disclose, within 50 days of the service of this request, the information or material described in Rule 194.2.

# Plaintiff's 1<sup>st</sup> Requests for Production to Defendants United States Liability and Glenn Knies

57. Please produce a copy of your entire claims file, including memos, emails, estimates, records, a complete copy of the policy, letters, evaluations, etc. If you make claim of privilege for any documents requested in this request for production, then pursuant to TRCP 193.3(b), consider this Plaintiff's request that you identify the information and material withheld and the specific privilege asserted by producing a privilege log of each document withheld.

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#### VIII. PRAYER

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff prays that upon trial hereof, said

Plaintiff has and recover such sums as would reasonably and justly compensate it in accordance

with the rules of law and procedure, as to actual damages, treble damages under the Texas

Insurance Code, and all punitive and exemplary damages as may be found. In addition, Plaintiff

requests the award of attorney's fees for the trial and any appeal of this case, for all costs of Court

on its behalf expended, for prejudgment and post-judgment interest as allowed by law, and for
any other and further relief, either at law or in equity, to which it may show itself justly entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

LAWRENCE LAW FIRM 3112 Windsor Rd., Suite A234 Austin, Texas 78703 (956) 994-0057 (800) 507-4152 FAX

By:

LARRY W. LAWRENCE, JR. State Bar No. 00794145

MICHAEL LAWRENCE State Bar. No. 24055826 Lawrencefirm@gmail.com

Cartwright Law Firm, LLP 1300 Post Oak Blvd, Suite 760 Houston, Texas 77056 (713) 840-0950 (713) 840-0046 (fax) Mr. Dan Cartwright State Bar No. 03942500

Ms. Lory Sopchak

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State Bar No. 24076706 Lory@dcartwrightlaw.net

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

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Esther Degoliado
District Clerk
Webb District
Linda Torres
2016CVF002350D3

#### LAWRENCE LAW FIRM

A Professional Corporation

3112 Windsor Rd. #A234 Austin, Texas 78703 (956) 994-0057 (800) 507-4152 fax

September 7, 2016

Via E-File
Esther Degollado, District Clerk
1110 Victoria Street, Suite 203
Laredo, Texas 78040
(956) 523-4268 – Tel.
(956) 523-5063 – Fax

RE: NEW FILING: Sala Primary LLC v. United States Liability Insurance Company and Glenn Knies

Dear District Clerk:

By this letter, we kindly ask that you file the enclosed petition with request for a jury, and that you please prepare one citation and serve it by certified mail RRR for the following defendants:

- a. Defendant United States Liability Insurance Company is a Pennsylvania Corporation engaging in the business of insurance in the State of Texas. The defendant may be served with process by serving its registered agent: Lisa Mann, Bingham, Mann & House, 4500 Yoakum Blvd., Houston, Texas 77006.
- b. Defendant Glenn Knies is an individual licensed to engage in the business of adjusting insurance claims in Texas. This defendant can be served with process by serving United States Liability Insurance Company's registered agent: Lisa Mann, Bingham, Mann & House, 4500 Yoakum Blvd., Houston, Texas 77006 or wherever found.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at 956-792-6286. Thank you.

Warmest Regards,

/s/ Michael A. Lawrence

LARRY W. LAWRENCE, JR. MICHAEL A. LAWRENCE

WEBB CO DISTRICT CLERK Fax:956-523-5121

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#### HONORABLE BECKIE PALOMO

State District Court Judge
341\*\* JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS
WEBB COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER
1110 Victoria Street, Suite 302

Laredo, Texas 78040-4439

#### CIVIL CASE - CALENDAR CALL SETTINGS

RE: CAUSE NO: 2016CVF002350 D3

STYLE: SALA PRIMARY LLC

VS

#### UNITED STATES LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANY ET.AL.

NOTICE that this case IS SET FOR CALENDAR CALL on 12/05/2016, at 1:30 PM at the 341st District Courtroom, 3rd Floor, Webb County Justice Center.

Calendar Call hearings will be in open Court and on the record before JUDGE BECKIE PALOMO. Your presence is MANDATORY unless Counsel for Plaintiff(s) file a Joint Pre-Trial Guideline Order (PTGO) with all counsels signatures on the PTGO.

You may download the PTGO at our website: http://www.webbcountytx.gov/DC341st/Links/civ\_Jury%20PTGO.pdf

Counsel for Plaintiff(s): if you do not appear for calendar call, your case may be dismissed for lack of prosecution.

Counsel for Defendant(s): if you do not appear for calendar call, a pre-trial guideline order may be entered with or without your approval and/or signature.

Call the court for jury selection dates and pre-trial hearing dates. Keep in mind jury selection must be set within the timeframes recommended by the Texas Supreme Court.

If there are any questions regarding this matter please feel free to call the court at the number below.

Magdalena Martinez Civil Court Coordinator

(956)523-4328



WEBB CO DISTRICT CLERK Fax:956-523-5121 Oct 4 2016 04:20pm P019/027

#### Case 5:16-cv-00295 Document 1-2 Filed in TXSD on 10/06/16 Page 21 of 29

# \*\* Transmit Confirmation Report \*\*

P. 1 WEBB CO DISTRICT CLERK Fax: 956-523-5121

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#### HONORABLE BECKIE PALOMO

State District Court Judge 341" JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS WEBB COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER 1110 Victoria Street, Suite 302 Laredo, Texas 78040-4439

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"RETURN" 2016CVF002350 D3

#### CITATION BY CERTIFIED MAIL THE STATE OF TEXAS

NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: "YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. YOU MAY EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY. IF YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY DO NOT FILE A WRITTEN ANSWER WITH THE CLERK WHO ISSUED THIS CITATION BY 10:00 A.M. ON THE MONDAY NEXT FOLLOWING THE EXPIRATION OF TWENTY DAYS AFTER YOU WERE SERVED THIS CITATION AND PETITION, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU."

TO: GLENN KNIES

BY SERVING: UNITED STATES LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANY'S LISA MANN (BINGHAM, MANN, & HOUSE) 4500 YOAKUM BLVD HOUSTON, TX 77006

DEFENDANT, IN THE HEREINAFTER STYLED AND NUMBERED CAUSE, YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE 341ST DISTRICT COURT of Webb County, Texas, to be held at the said courthouse of said county in the city of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, by filing a written answer to the Petition of Plaintiff at or before 10:00 O'CLOCK A.M. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days after the date of service thereof, a copy of which accompanies this citation, in the Cause #: 2016CVF002350 D3 , styled:

SALA PRIMARY LLC, PLAINTIFF

VS.

UNITED STATES LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANY AND GLENN KNIES, DEFENDANTS

Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed on 09/07/2016 in said court by:

LARRY W LAWRENCE JR, (ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF)

3112 WINDSOR RD STE A234

AUSTIN, TX 78703

WITNESS ESTHER DEGOLLADO, DISTRICT CLERK OF WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS, issued and given under my hand and seal of said court at office, this 14 day of September, 2016.

CLERK OF COURT

ESTHER DEGOLLADO, CLERK OF WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

P.O. BOX 667 LAREDO, TX 78042

BY: TOUNCE 10

CLERK'S CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Clerk of the District Courts and County Court at Law of Webb County, Texas, certify that I executed the foregoing citation in Webb County, Texas on this 14 day of September, 2016, by placing in the United States mail a true copy of this citation, with true copy of the aforesaid Pleading attached thereto, via Certified Mail No.7015.1520.0001.8308.4757 ADDRESSED TO: GLENN KNIES, 4500 YOAKUM BLVD, HOUSTON, TX 77006, and endorsed thereon "RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED," after having first endorsed on said copy of said citation the date of mailing and the name and address of the within-named recipient, to certify which witness my hand officially this 14 day of September, 2016.

CALENDAR CALL SET FOR 12/05/2016 AT 1:30P.M.

ATTACH EVIDENCE OF MAILING AND RETURN RECEIPT HERE.

ESTHER DEGOLLADO
CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURTS AND
COUNTY COURT-AT-LAW

OF WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

Tulinda lorro

"SERVE" 2016CVF002350 D3

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TO: GLENN KNIES

BY SERVING: UNITED STATES LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANY'S

LISA MANN (BINGHAM, MANN, & HOUSE)

4500 YOAKUM BLVD

HOUSTON, TX 77006

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SALA PRIMARY LLC, PLAINTIFF

VS

UNITED STATES LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANY AND GLENN KNIES,

Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed on 09/07/2016 in said court by:

LARRY W LAWRENCE JR, (ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF)

3112 WINDSOR RD STE A234

AUSTIN, TX 78703

WITNESS ESTHER DEGOLLADO, DISTRICT CLERK OF WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS, issued and given under my hand and seal of said court at office, this 14 day of September, 2016.

CLERK OF COURT

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P.O. BOX 667

LAREDO, TX 78042

BY: Harlinga Torre) :

HERLINDA TORRES

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CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURTS AND

COUNTY COURT-AT-LAW\_

OF WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

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"RETURN" 2016CVF002350 D3

SVA STANTING

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UNITED STATES LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANY BY SERVING ITS REGISTERED AGENT: LISA MANN (BINGHAM, MANN, & HOUSE) 4500 YOAKUM BLVD HOUSTON, TX 77006

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SALA PRIMARY LLC, PLAINTIFF

UNITED STATES LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANY AND GLENN KNIES, **DEFENDANTS** 

Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed on 09/07/2016 in said court by: LARRY W LAWRENCE JR, (ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF)

3112 WINDSOR RD STE A234

AUSTIN, TX 78703

witness esther degollado, district clerk of webe county, texas, issueduanidigiyen under my hand and seal of said court at office, this 14 day of September

> CLERK O F COURT

ESTHER DEGOLLADO, CLERK OF WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

P.O. BOX 667 LAREDO, TX 78042

BY: HERLINDA TORRES

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I, Clerk of the District Courts and County Court at Law of Webb County, Texas, certify that I executed the foregoing citation in Webb County, Texas on this 14 day of September, 2016, by placing in the United States mail a true copy of this citation, with true copy of the aforesaid Pleading attached thereto, via Certified Mail No.7015.1520.0001.8308.4740 ADDRESSED TO: UNITED STATES LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANY, 4500 YOAKUM BLVD, HOUSTON, TX 77006, and endorsed thereon "RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED," after having first endorsed on said copy of said citation the date of mailing and the name and address of the with impamed recipient, to certify which witness my hand officially this 14 day 2016.

CALENDAR CALL SET FOR 12/05/2016 AT 1:30P.M.

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ESTHER DEGOLLADO CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COUNTY COURT-AT-LAW

OF WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

WEBB CO DISTRICT CLERK Fax:956-523-5121 Oct 4 2016 04:23pm P023/027

"SERVE" 2016CVF002350 D3

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Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed on 09/07/2016 in said court by: LARRY W LAWRENCE JR, (ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF) 3112 WINDSOR RD STE A234

AUSTIN, TX 78703

WITNESS ESTHER DEGOLLADO, DISTRICT CLERK OF WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS, issued and given under my hand and seal of said court at office, this 14 day of September, 2016.

C L E R K O F C O U R T

ESTHER DEGOLLADO, CLERK OF WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS
P.O. BOX 667

LAREDO, TX 78042

BY: HERLINDA TORRES

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BY:

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ESTHER DEGOLLADO CLERK OF THE DISTRICT CO COUNTY COURT-AT-LAW

OF, WEBB COUNTY, TEXA

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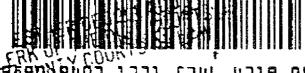
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Page 29 of 29 First-Class Mail Postage & Fees Paid USPS

Permit No. G-10



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